(a) if so, the details thereof;

(b) by when, it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the expenditure to be spent on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) Four laning of 20 km stretch from Jallandhar towards Amritsar will be taken up under budgetary support by National Highways Authority of India, for which bids are being invited. For the remaining length of National Highways between Jallandhar and Wagha Border (via Amritsar) various alternatives of funding such as External Assistance, Private Sector Participation and budgetary support are under consideration.

(b) and (d) Expenditure to be incurred will be known after work is awarded. Target for completion of 4-laning of 20 Km. Stretch from Jallandhar side is June 2006. For the remainign length target is not finalised.

Accidents on Indian Roads

3075. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(c) whether it is a fact that international organisations have given India the dubious reputation of being the worst accident affected and accident-prone country in the world;

(d) whether Government have received such negative recognition internationally;

(a) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the steps proposed by Government to remove this negative impression?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Restrictions on trucks carrying loose iron rods

3076. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(b) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India has not stopped trucks and vehicles from carrying loose iron rods without proper safety measures;

(a) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps would be taken to restrict movement of the dangerious loaded lorries and trucks on the National Highways; and

(b) by when such restrictions would be imposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) Vehicular movement on roads is governed by the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989. Section 115 of the MV Act gives powers to the State Governments to restrict the use of vehicles, which affect public safety or convenience. The Section 190 of MV Act provides for punishment for Carriage of Goods which are dangerous or hazardous nature to human life. Under Rule 93 of CMV Rules, the overall dimensions of transport vehicles have been prescribed. Enforcement of the provisions of MV Act and CMV Rules is done by the respective States/UTs. National Highways Authority of India have no authority to check the movement of vehicles which affect public safety or convenience.

Grant for national highways in Karnataka

3077. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(c) whether a proposal has been submitted by the Public Works Department of Karnataka requesting for allocation of Rs. 35 crores as additional grants under the National Highways Original Works for the year 2002-03;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and